

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A ~~D~~-device for producing cigarette filters, ~~which comprises~~ comprising a conditioning section (AF) for conditioning ~~the~~ supplied filter tows, a formatting section ~~device~~ (F) for producing a wrapped filter strand, and a dosing device (4) integrated into a ~~the~~ conditioning section for dosing a softener, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the device further comprises sensors that detect ~~the~~ mass flow of filter tow material M_1 as well as sensors that detect a ~~the~~ sum of the mass flow from filter tow material and softener compound M_2 , and wherein the device comprises a measuring and regulation unit that is coupled with the sensors for measuring the mass flows (M_1 and M_2) in such a manner that both the filter material and the softener compound can be measured and regulated independently.
2. (Currently amended) The ~~D~~-device pursuant to claim 1, wherein the device, ~~characterized in that,~~ when viewed in the moving direction of the filter strand, in front of and after the dosing device (4), for the softener sensors (S_{m1} ; S_{m2}) that detect the length-related mass m_1 , m_2 of the continuous filter strand and sensors (S_{v1} ; S_{v2}) that detect the current speeds v_1 and v_2 of the continuous filter strand are provided, wherein the respective mass flow results from the products of $m_1 \times v_1 = M_1$ and $m_2 \times v_2 = M_2$.
3. (Currently amended) The ~~D~~-device pursuant to one of the claims ~~1 or~~ 2, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the sensor (S_{v1}) that detects the speed v_1 and the sensor (S_{m1}) that detects the length-related mass m_1 are arranged directly adjacent.
4. (Currently amended) The ~~D~~-device pursuant to ~~at least one of the preceding claims 1 through 3~~ 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the sensors (S_{m1} ; S_{m2}) that detect the length-related mass m_1 and/or the speed v_1 are arranged before entry into the conditioning section (AF).

5. (Currently amended) ~~The D-device pursuant to one of the preceding claims 2, characterized in that~~ wherein the formatting device (F) comprises a cutting device and that the sensor (S_{m2}), when viewed in the moving direction of the filter strand, is arranged directly in front of the cutting device and that as sensor (S_{v2}) the measuring unit for the formatting line speed is used.
6. (Currently amended) ~~The D-device pursuant to at least one of the preceding claims 2, characterized in that~~ wherein the sensors (S_{v1} ; S_{v2}) that detect the current speeds v_1 and v_2 of the continuous filter strand are optical speed sensors.
7. (Currently amended) ~~The D-device pursuant to at least one of the preceding claims 2, characterized in that~~ wherein as the sensor (S_{m1} and/or S_{m2}) that detects the length-related mass m_1 and/or m_2 , a sensor is selected that is suited to determine apart from the length-related masses also the moisture content of the current product to be measured.
8. (Currently amended) ~~The D-device pursuant to one of the preceding claims 2, characterized in that~~ wherein the sensor (S_{m1} and/or S_{m2}) is a microwave sensor.
9. (Currently amended) ~~The D-device pursuant to claim 8, characterized in that~~ wherein the microwave sensor is a split resonator.
10. (Currently amended) ~~The D-device pursuant to claim 8, characterized in that~~ wherein the microwave sensor comprises a closed, tube-shaped resonator that is perforated with a plastic probe guide.
11. (Currently amended) ~~The D-device pursuant to claim 8, characterized in that~~ wherein the microwave sensor is designed as a planar sensor.
12. (Currently amended) ~~The D-device pursuant to claim 8, characterized in that~~ wherein the microwave sensor is designed as a profile sensor. The D-device

13. (Currently amended) ~~The D~~ device pursuant to ~~at least one of the claims 1 through 5~~ 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the sensor (S_{m1} and/or S_{m2}) that detects the length-related mass m_1 and/or m_2 of the continuous filter strand is a β -radiation source as well as a β -radiation detector.

14. (Currently amended) ~~The D~~ device pursuant to ~~at least one of the preceding claims 1~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein bale scales are used as a sensor for determining the mass flow M_1 .

15. (Currently amended) ~~The D~~ device pursuant to ~~at least one of the claims 1 through 13~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said device comprises a regulation unit for the automatic regulation of the filter material and softener mass, which is coupled at its output both to the conditioning section (AF) and the dosing section (4).